



The Kindness

By Polly Samson

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The Kindness By Polly Samson

He followed her eyes skyward to a bird that was falling, turning and turning, like a heart that had leapt free. It fell, and as it did it became a falcon. He was transfixed.

Julian's fall begins the moment he sets eyes on Julia.

Julia is married and eight years his senior; he is a gifted English student, a life of academia ahead. Ignoring warnings from family and friends, they each give up all they have to be together. Their new life in London offers immense happiness, especially after their longed-for daughter Mira is born.

When Julian hears that Firdaws, his adored boyhood home, is for sale, he sets out to recreate a lost paradise for his new family. Once again, love blinds him. It is only when Mira becomes terrifyingly ill that it is impossible for Julia to conceal from him the explosive secret that she has been keeping at the heart of their lives.

Lyrical, haunting and exquisitely rendered, Polly Samson's second novel explores a deception that comes wrapped as a gift, a betrayal that is clothed in kindness, and asks if we can ever truly trust another. The result is an unforgettable story of love, grief, betrayal, and reconciliation, masterfully plotted and beautifully told.

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Editorial Review

Review

“Sumptuous.” *?The New York Times Book Review*

“Samson, creates a moving portrait of a family torn by the stress of a sick child--and a sensuous, lyrical account of a failed marriage.” *?Publishers Weekly*

“With its sensuous prose and blend of romance, disappointment, amazing sex, and exquisite domestic interiors, the novel hovers somewhere between conventional commercial fiction and something rather more ambitious.” *?Kirkus Reviews*

“Beautifully written, filled with warmth and humor, *The Kindness* is a powerful novel exploring the complexities of love and the nature of human relationships.” *?Booklist*

“A haunting story of pleasure, disappointment, and family, one that immerses you into their journey.” *?BlogCritics.org*

“This is elegant, witty writing, informed throughout by generosity and wise perceptiveness. Dealing with many kinds of love, and with misunderstanding, betrayal, grief and forgiveness, the novel dares to posit, ultimately, the possibility of redemption. It is a book to cherish, to recommend, to return to--and not to lend anyone.” *?Financial Times*

“In addition to displaying assured prose, Samson's book is precisely plotted.” *?The Minneapolis Star Tribune*

"Haunting . . . A compellingly plotted account of the corrosive power a secret has to destroy the happiest of families." - *Daily Mail* on BEST BOOKS ABOUT FAMILY SECRETS

"Addictive, cleverly structured and intriguing relationship story of lies and flawed communication." - Summer Book Choice, *Sunday Times*

About the Author

Polly Samson was born in London in 1962. She is the author of two highly acclaimed story collections and a novel, *Out of the Picture*, which was shortlisted for the Author Club's First Novel Award. Her most recent collection of linked stories, *Perfect Lives*, was a *Sunday Times* Fiction Choice of the Year. Samson lives in Sussex.

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Frankie Graybill:

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Alonzo Stark:

Why? Because this The Kindness is an unordinary book that the inside of the publication waiting for you to snap this but latter it will zap you with the secret the idea inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such amazing way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book have such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the book store hurriedly.

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